

MAR 08 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO INCORPORATE AS PART OF ITS
2015-25 UH MANOA STRATEGIC PLAN THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN
UNIVERSITIES MEMBERSHIP PHASE I AND II INDICATORS, AS
APPROPRIATE, AS A MEANS TO ESTABLISH GOALS AND METRICS FOR
THE UNIVERSITY'S CONTINUED PURSUIT TO BE AMONGST THE MOST
PRESTIGIOUS RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN THE NATION.

1 WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, the flagship
2 campus of the only public university in the State, serves a
3 diverse community of students and public and private
4 stakeholders, provides a world-class education, and performs
5 scholarly work and service in areas of critical importance to
6 Hawai'i, the United States, and the entire Asia Pacific region;
7 and
8

9 WHEREAS, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa is a major
10 research university, one of one hundred fifteen universities in
11 the United States categorized as "Highest Research
12 Universities," often referred to as Research 1 or R1
13 universities; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the University ranks seventieth by the Academic
16 Ranking of World Universities and sixty-first by the TIMES
17 Higher Education World University Rankings among research-led
18 universities in the U.S., the University of Hawai'i is in the top
19 two hundred fifty universities globally; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the Association of American Universities (AAU) is
22 an association of leading comprehensive research universities
23 distinguished by the breadth and quality of their research
24 programs and graduate education; and
25

26 WHEREAS, AAU member universities, sixty in the United
27 States and two in Canada, are on the leading edge of innovation,
28 scholarship, and solutions that contribute to scientific
29 progress, economic development, security, and well-being; and



1
2 WHEREAS, the sixty AAU universities in the United States
3 are of high prestige and award nearly one-half of all U.S.
4 doctoral degrees and fifty-five percent of those in the sciences
5 and engineering; and
6

7 WHEREAS, AAU universities award forty-two percent of all
8 research doctoral degrees, yet make up only eight percent of all
9 four-year PhD granting universities; and
10

11 WHEREAS, federal agencies rely on universities to perform
12 critical research in the national interest AAU universities
13 perform the majority of that research; and
14

15 WHEREAS, \$23,300,000,000 in federally funded basic
16 research, or sixty percent of the total amount funded, is
17 performed by faculty at AAU universities. Agencies such as the
18 Department of Health, Department of Human Services, National
19 Science Foundation, and Department of Defense alone funded
20 \$19,200,000,000 in university research; and
21

22 WHEREAS, in its evaluation of institutions, the AAU
23 Membership Committee is guided by a set of Membership Principles
24 and Membership Indicators; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the Membership Indicators are a two-phase set of
27 quantitative measures used to assess the breadth and quality of
28 university research programs and graduate education; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the AAU Membership Phase I Indicators are as
31 follows:
32

- 33 (1) Potential members have competitively funded federal
34 research support. The Membership Committee uses
35 National Science Foundation research expenditure data,
36 excluding formula-allocated United States Department
37 of Agriculture research expenditures and American
38 Recovery Reinvestment Act expenditures. Funding for
39 the Agriculture Food and Research Initiative, a
40 competitively funded United States Department of
41 Agriculture research support program;
42



- 1 (2) Potential members have membership in the National
2 Academies. The National Academies' membership
3 database maintains the current institutional
4 affiliation of its members;
5
- 6 (3) Potential members have faculty awards, fellowships,
7 and memberships. The Membership Committee gathers
8 data on faculty awards, fellowships and memberships as
9 an additional assessment of the distinction of an
10 institution's faculty. Additional appropriate awards,
11 fellowships, and memberships will be added to this
12 list as they are identified; and
13
- 14 (4) Potential members have published academic research
15 materials. Thomson Reuters InCites™ citations
16 database provides an annually updated measure of both
17 research volume and quality and will provide a
18 valuable complement to the first four indicators
19 listed above; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the AAU Membership Phase II Indicators are as
22 follows:
23

- 24 (1) United States Department of Agriculture, state, and
25 industrial research funding. Though these three
26 sources of academic research support fund important,
27 high-quality research, they are treated as Phase II
28 indicators since they are generally not allocated
29 through competitive, merit-review processes.
30 Competitively funded United States Department of
31 Agriculture research programs, such as the Agriculture
32 Food and Research Initiative, that can be separately
33 identified in reported data are included in Phase I
34 data;
35
- 36 (2) The Committee uses the number of research scholarship
37 Ph.D.s granted annually, using Department of Education
38 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System data.
39 These data are treated as Phase II indicators to
40 de-emphasize the quantitative dimensions of Ph.D.
41 programs and avoid sending an unintended signal to
42 institutions to increase Ph.D. output;



(3) The Committee uses National Science Foundation compiled data from institutions on postdoctoral appointees, most of whom are in the health sciences, physical sciences, and engineering. Postdoctoral education is an increasingly important component of university research and education activities that the committee believes should be tracked in AAU membership indicators. However, because postdoctoral activity is highly correlated with university research and because self-reported postdoctoral data are less uniform than data on federally funded research, postdoctoral appointees are treated as a Phase II indicator; and

(4) The Committee assesses the institution's undergraduate programs to determine that the institution is meeting its commitment to undergraduate education. Recognizing that differing institutional missions among research universities dictate different ways of providing undergraduate education, the committee will be flexible in this assessment. A number of measures have been suggested, including some that focus on input and others that look primarily at output variables. These are at this time imperfect, but may provide some guidance to the committee in making its judgments on this topic; and

WHEREAS, these Membership Indicators can be transformed into guidelines to determine whether a University's academics and research adheres to stringent standards which symbolize excellence and leadership in the field of higher education; and

WHEREAS, while the goal of adopting these Membership Indicators is not specifically to gain AAU membership, they should be viewed as encompassing general goals and metrics that the University of Hawai'i should adopt to achieve its ongoing efforts to be placed amongst the highest ranked universities in the nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of Representatives concurring, that the University of Hawai'i at



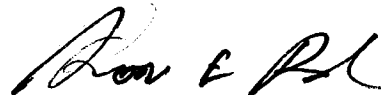
S.C.R. NO. 185

1 Mānoa is urged to incorporate as part of its 2015-25 UH Manoa
2 Strategic Plan the Association of American Universities
3 Membership Phase I and II indicators, as appropriate, as a means
4 to establish goals and metrics for the University's continued
5 pursuit to be amongst the most prestigious research institutions
6 in the nation; and
7

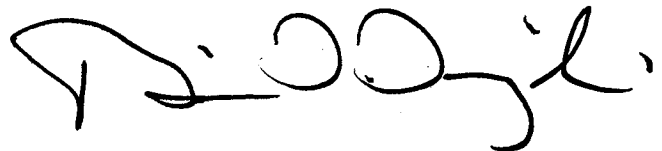
8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
10 University of Hawai'i System, Chair of the Board of Regents of
11 the University of Hawai'i, and President of the Association of
12 American Universities.
13
14
15

OFFERED BY: 


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